THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) As per information made available by Embassy of India, Beijing, Sinosteel Corporation of China has approached the Government of Jharkhand for setting up an integrated steel plant in the State. However, no Memorandum of Understanding has been signed in this regard, as yet.

(c) As per the Government's policy, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) upto 100% is permitted in the steel sector under the automatic route where no prior approval is required.

Requirements of Small and Medium Industries

3346. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government meet the 100 per cent requirements of small and medium industries for their steel needs as per their specifications; and
- (b) if not, whether Government plan to take corrective measures in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) Small Scale Industry sector have the option to procure steel material as per their choice either through the Corporations (State Small Industries Corporation and National Small Industries Corporation) or directly from the main producers. Under the scheme for routing the allocation of iron and steel material from main producers to SSI units through Corporations, requirements of steel material as per the specification are met to the extent of production of material, as per rolling plan/schedule, of the main producers and as per the registration made by Corporations with the main producers in advance.